



Milwaukee County

Supervisor Peggy A. Romo West, 12th District

Chairwoman, Health & Human Needs Committee

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SEXUAL ASSAULT NURSE EXAMINERS NEEDED IN LOCAL HOSPITALS

County Board encourages partnerships to provide needed support for victims of sex assault

Milwaukee, WI – Last week, the County Board approved a resolution authored by Supervisor Peggy Romo West supporting the use of Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE) in local hospitals to ensure that victims of sexual assault receive the best care and support possible.

“The average citizen might be surprised that many of our hospitals don’t provide adequate support services for victims of sexual assault,” Supervisor Romo West said. “I’m pleased that the County Board is unanimously urging hospitals to foster partnerships to offer this extra support via Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners.”

“I commend the County Board for encouraging that all hospitals provide SANE responders for sex assault victims. When victims discover that support services aren't available, it can dramatically increase the trauma of an already painful experience,” said Michele Reimer, Lead Organizer of SlutWalk Milwaukee, a coalition dedicated to supporting sexual assault survivors and ending victim-blaming. “I hope that all Milwaukee County hospitals will take the County Board’s resolution seriously and begin to implement proper victim services in all facilities.”

The resolution was co-sponsored by Supervisors Nikiya Harris, Patricia Jursik, Michael Mayo, Sr., Eyon Biddle, Sr., and Jason Haas. It also calls for the Medical Society of Milwaukee County, through its Emergency Medical Services Committee, to consider incorporating the coordination of SANE services among hospitals in Milwaukee County into its community advocacy platform.

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